



True Bible Teaching About... “Baptism”

Baptism is required for salvation:

Mark 16:15, 16: *“And he (Jesus) said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved...”*

What is it? The word comes from the Greek “baptizo” and means to dip, to immerse, cover. It was used in the dyeing trade; - to immerse a garment in a bath of dye was to baptize it. It was a most appropriate word to use, as the believer was totally immersed in water.

Matt. 3:16 : *“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water...”*

Acts 8:38 : *“...And they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.”*

What does it signify? A burial of our old way of life, and a resurrection to a new way.

Rom. 6:3-6 : *“Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead...even so, we also should walk in newness of life.”*

Col. 2:12 : *“Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him...”*

The “old man” dies that the “new man” might live. We are now in a new status, “in Christ”, and members of the household of God.

2Cor. 5:17 : *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature;...”*

1Pet 2:2 : *“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.”*

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Gal. 3:27-29 : *“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ...then are ye Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise.”*

Baptism is also the means of having all past sins of the “old man” forgiven.

Acts 2:38 : *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...”*

Acts 22:16 : *“...arise and be baptized, and wash away thy sins...”*

Baptized believers then become part of God’s Family and are enrolled as citizens of the Kingdom of God, and have embarked on a “race” or a journey which continues throughout the life of the disciple, walking with God, and keeping His commandments.

Eph. 2:19 : *“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God...”*

Heb. 12:1 : *“...and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”*

Col. 1:10 : *“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”*

Then, by God’s grace and mercy, the following words may be heard:

Matt. 25:34 : *“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”*